

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**November 4, 2013**

**PAGE 175**

The Jasper County Board of Commissioners met this date at 8:15 A.M. in the Commissioners' Room, Suite 202, of the Jasper County Courthouse located at 115 West Washington Street, Rensselaer, Indiana, with the following members present: Kendell Culp, James A. Walstra and Richard E. Maxwell. Also present was the Auditor of Jasper County, Kimberly K. Grow; Deputy Auditor, Donna J. Horner; Highway Engineer/Supervisor, Jack R. Haberlin and the Attorney who represents the Commissioners, Eric Beaver. Mr. Culp called the meeting to order and those present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Christine Haskell, Prosecuting Attorney.

CLAIMS: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PAYROLL CLAIM & ALLOWANCE DOCKETS: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the Payroll Claim & Allowance Dockets for the check dates equal to October 15, 2013 and October 30, 2013. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

MINUTES: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 7, 2013 and the Minutes of the Executive Session held on October 7, 2013. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

BURIED CABLE: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the following buried cable permits. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

CENTURYLINK:

ACT #13152846 For the purpose of boring under 450 West to replace a deteriorated buried service wire in Barkley Township. There is no tile in the area. (Permit #680)

ACT #13162821 For the purpose of boring under CR 300 West to replace a deteriorated buried service wire in Barkley Township. There is no tile in the area. (Permit #681)

MONON TELEPHONE COMPANY:

ACT #CD13-01 For the purpose of installation of buried fiber optic cable. Construction consists of plowing and directional bore in Milroy Township. There is tile in the area. (Permit #682)

WINDOW TINTING / PROSECUTING ATTORNEY: Christine Haskell, Prosecuting Attorney, submitted the following quotes for window tinting at the Annex building: (1) Prosecutor's reception area - \$838.50 (2) EMA Office and the three (3) remaining offices within the Prosecutor's office - \$978.00. Ms. Haskell stated that the tinting is needed for anti-glare and privacy purposes. The quotes do include materials and installation. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the request for the window tinting. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

PERMISSION TO USE COURTHOUSE SQUARE / CHRISTMAS PARADE: Linda Comingore, Greater Rensselaer Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Christmas parade will be taking place on Saturday, December 7 at 4:30 p.m. Permission was requested for the following: (1) Use of the courthouse square on the day of the parade, (2) installation of lights on the pine trees located on the two north corners, (3) locate Santa's house on the northwest corner of the courthouse square, and (4) use of the gazebo during the parade. Ms. Comingore also requested a signature for her INDOT application. A Parade & Use Permit will need to be filled out for the use of the courthouse grounds.

DIEDAM PAINTING AND RESTORATION / ADDENDUMS: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the following addendums (quotes) as submitted by Mike Diedam, M.J. Diedam Painting and Restoration LLC. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

Addendum #2 / Repair South Side Entrance	\$4,260.00
Addendum #3 / Repair North Entrance	\$4,260.00
Addendum #4 / Tuckpoint & caulk limestone railing on south side and repair limestone column	\$6,820.00
Addendum #5 / Tuckpoint & caulk limestone railing on north side	\$3,620.00

EMA ENHANCEMENT GRANT: Karen Wilson, Emergency Management Director, stated that the county will be receiving an EMA enhancement grant in the amount of \$5,179.00. The grant money can be used for such things as equipment, training, public outreach and conferences. This money cannot be used towards salaries.

Ms. Wilson also reported that she should be in her new office located at the Annex building by the end of the week.

GUTS CONTRACT / TREASURER: Carla Anderson, Treasurer, presented a two-year contract with GUTS for lockbox services. Ms. Anderson stated that the cost remains the same as previous years. Attorney Beaver has reviewed the contract. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the contract. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE / IT: Bill Batley, IT, requested permission to attend the Commissioners conference in Indianapolis on Wednesday only. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

PRINTER CONSOLIDATION / IT: Bill Batley, IT, stated that he has been working on a solution to try to eliminate some of the large HP printer fleet (small desk-top printers) that we currently have. Mr. Batley has been working with Niki Gagianas, Richo, to find a way to replace the equipment and actually reduce the cost at the same time. Money was added to the 2014 budget to cover any additional costs. Mr. Batley stated that the current cost is \$496.00 per month. After replacing the current equipment with new, the proposed cost will be \$476.00 per month. Circuit Court, Probation and the Recorder's office currently have equipment that is not on the county's system. They have all agreed to change to Ricoh; therefore, this will be an additional cost of \$342.00 per month. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the proposal as submitted. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES INSPECTOR: Upon request, Mike Harper, Porter County Weights & Measures Inspector, presented the Commissioners with a list of equipment that would be needed to start up a weights & measures program in Jasper County. A vehicle will be needed in order to transport all of the equipment. Further discussion took place. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to give approval to Mike Harper to purchase the needed equipment for Jasper County. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried. The Commissioners will research a possible vehicle. Mr. Harper will give an update at the December meeting.

FAX LINE / EMA OFFICE: Bill Batley, IT, stated that Karen Wilson, EMA Director, has requested that a fax line be installed within her new office at the Annex building. The cost would be \$33.00 per month. The Prosecutor, Probation and Health departments all have fax lines. The Commissioners recommend that Mr. Batley speak with these departments to see if Ms. Wilson can use their fax machines when needed.

REQUEST TO CHANGE THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF REAL ESTATE IN GILLAM TOWNSHIP / FELEKI: A request has been made to change the zoning classification of real estate in **Gillam Township** from the **A1 Conservation Agriculture District** to the **ER Estate Residential District**. Mary Scheurich, Director / Planning & Development, stated that Mr. Feleki would like to sell off his existing home from his farm. The home is currently on a little less than 1 acre. Mr. Feleki is requesting a rezone in order to make the existing yard a complete 1 acre. The Plan Commission did unanimously recommend approval. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 11-4-2013A**. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES AGREEMENT / PURDUE UNIVERSITY: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve Amendment #6 to Extension Contractual Services Agreement between Purdue University and Government of Jasper County. The agreement is amended as follows: Period is amended by extending the agreement expiration date to December 31, 2014, and amount is amended to \$74,122.50 for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. The amount of the agreement is \$74,122.50. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

COMPENSATORY TIME / REQUEST TO EXTEND: Harry Carney, Maintenance, has requested permission to carry over 25 hours to be used during the holidays. Donya Jordan, Deputy Auditor, requested permission to carry over 18 hours to be used during the Christmas season. Donna Horner, Deputy Auditor, also requested to carry over 15 hours. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the extensions until the end of the year. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

TREES / PARKING LOT: Mr. Culp stated that the Urban Forestry Council would like to plant three (3) trees between the curb and the grassy area located on the south end of the parking lot. Due to the location, the Commissioners made the decision to recommend that bushes be planted rather than trees.

SPYGLASS: Kim Grow, Auditor, stated that she was contacted by a vendor from SpyGlass. Ms. Grow stated that they basically offer the same services as Steve Casper. The Commissioners are satisfied with their current vendor and are not interested at this time.

TRANSAMERICA: A letter was recently received from TransAmerica stating that all coverage it provides to our covered employees will terminate on December 31, 2013. As the representative for TransAmerica, Jack Fagen will be sending out a letter to the employees. Would you like for them to line something up as a replacement for the TransAmerica? Due to the other options offered by the county, the decision was made to not offer a replacement.

WINTER CONFERENCE / PROSECUTOR: Christine Haskell, Prosecuting Attorney, has advised per letter that the Winter Conference hosted by the Indiana Prosecuting Attorney's Council will be held on December 9-11 in Indianapolis. Ms. Haskell along with both of her deputies will be attending this conference. Registration fees are \$400.00 per attendee and the hotel rooms will be \$97.00 per night plus tax. Ms. Grow will contact Ms. Haskell in regards to which fund the expenses will be paid out of. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried. Mr. Walstra added the stipulation that the county car be used if available.

WORKSHOP / VETERANS OFFICER: Patrick Donnelly, Veterans Service Officer, will be attending a "We Honor Veterans" workshop on November 7 at the Jasper County Hospital. This workshop is being presented by the Jasper County Hospice. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

CASA MEETING: Judge John Potter, Jasper Circuit Court, informed the Commissioners per letter that CASA Director, Katie Hall, attended the mandatory State CASA meeting on October 21 and 22. The Commissioners requested that Ms. Grow look into how the expenses of the CASA director will be shared with the other counties.

2014 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the following 2014 Holiday Schedule. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

Wednesday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, February 17	Presidents Day
Friday, April 18	Good Friday
Tuesday, May 6	Primary Election Day
Monday, May 26	Memorial Day
Friday, July 4	Independence Day
Monday, September 1	Labor Day
Monday, October 13	Columbus Day

2014 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE CON'T:

Tuesday, November 4	General Election Day
Tuesday, November 11	Veterans Day Holiday
Thursday, November 27	Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 28	Thanksgiving Holiday
Thursday, December 25	Christmas Day
Friday, December 26	Christmas Holiday

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Thursday, January 1	New Year's Day
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COMMISSIONERS MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR 2014: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the following Commissioners Meeting Schedule for the year 2014. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried. Please note that the February meeting is not held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month. **\*The meeting schedule was amended at the November 18, 2013 meeting. The March meeting will now take place on Monday, March 10.\***

Monday, January 6  
Monday, February 10\*  
Monday, March 3  
Monday, April 7  
Monday, May 5  
Monday, June 2  
Monday, July 7  
Monday, August 4  
Tuesday, September 2\*  
Monday, October 6  
Monday, November 3  
Monday, December 1  
Monday, December 22  
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Monday, January 5

At this time, there was a short break.

JAIL UPDATE / KB SOLUTIONS: Kurt Stevens, KB Solutions, was present to give an HVAC system update progress report. Mr. Stevens reported the following:

- 1) Bart Karwath has contacted him about potential dates for mediation. No date has been set at this time.
- 2) The boilers have been set and the piping is in progress.
- 3) The hot water piping has been run in the air handler and they are in the process of insulating it.
- 4) Lighting update – they are ahead of schedule in the jail pods.
- 5) Mr. Stevens has met with Scott Lattimer and John Lutz regarding RQAW and design problems.
- 6) They have set the condensing units for the VRF (Variable Refrigerant Flow).

A progress meeting will take place tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Stevens stated that they are ahead of schedule and he feels the work is going very well.

JASPER COUNTY AIRPORT / DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS: Brad Cozza, Manager / Jasper County Airport, distributed the exhibit that was prepared per the Commissioners' request outlining the area of interest concerning the conversion of the existing bean field to a hay crop on the northwest side of the terminal area. The total acreage of this area is 3.1 acres. The goal is to stabilize that land by having a hay crop that would slow the water as it comes from the higher end of the airport from the north side and heads south towards the Iroquois River. By slowing it down and adding another drainage basin that ties into the existing work that was completed this past spring and summer that would ultimately steer the water into the existing detention pond and allow it to head south under SR 114 rather than going over it. Mr. Culp asked if there was language within the farm lease contract regarding changes in the acreage?

JASPER COUNTY AIRPORT / DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS CON'T: Mr. Maxwell stated that we would have to make adjustments to the contract. Mr. Walstra made a motion to give the Airport Authority approval to have use of the 3.1 acres to convert to hay ground. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

**AFTER THE JASPER COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT MEETING:**

STOCKMAN FURNITURE SERVICE: Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve the following estimates from Stockman Furniture Service. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

Assessor's Office:

Finish baseboard to match existing woodwork	\$2,600.00
Strip and refinish entry way, casing and jam	\$ 800.00
Finish baseboard to match existing woodwork	

Finish new door, casing and jam to match existing woodwork	\$ 600.00
Finish vertical wood post to match existing woodwork	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
TOTAL	\$4,250.00

Assessor's Office:

Repair, strip and refinish two (2) windows and jam (\$800.00 ea)	\$1,600.00
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South West Side of West Entrance:

Finish new bathroom door including casing and jam	<u>\$ 600.00</u>
TOTAL	\$6,450.00

HANDICAP PARKING: Mr. Culp stated that, at the last department head meeting, Judge Potter suggested that we have handicap parking spots in the area of parking spaces next to Attorney Dumas' office. Due to the location, it was suggested that it would be better to add additional spots around the courthouse.

LITTLE COUSIN JASPER FESTIVAL / CONCERNS: Several issues/concerns were discussed regarding this year's Little Cousin Jasper Festival. Mr. Culp stated that some of the office holders expressed concern with the music being played during the normal working hours on the Friday of the festival. Some of the office holders also felt that the courthouse needs to be locked during that weekend.

HIGHWAY / EQUIPMENT LIST: Mr. Haberlin distributed a list of the equipment at the Highway Department. We currently have \$290,000.00 budgeted for new equipment. After making the needed purchases for this year, Mr. Haberlin stated that there should be approximately \$38,000.00 remaining within the budget. Mr. Haberlin would like to use this money to purchase two (2) plows.

BRIDGE INSPECTION / AGREEMENT: Mr. Haberlin stated that the template for bridge inspection has been changed; therefore, the contracts will need to be resigned. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to approve. Mr. Walstra seconded and the motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENT / JASPER COUNTY YOUTH CENTER: Attorney Beaver presented the lease agreement with the Families of the Jasper County Youth Center. Revisions have been made regarding the changes that were discussed at the October meeting. Mr. Walstra made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

JAIL INSPECTOR'S REPORT: Sheriff Risner reported that the Indiana State Jail Inspector's Report was received last week. The inspection took place in October. The only thing that the State Jail Inspector recommended was a manpower assessment. Sheriff Risner stated that they will be completing this assessment and will report back with the findings.

SQUAD CAR / CANINE INSERT: Sheriff Risner reported that they are replacing a canine squad when the 2014 vehicles come in. The canine squad that we will be disposing of is a 2010 Dodge Charger with a canine insert.

SQUAD CAR / CANINE INSERT CON'T: The inserts are American aluminum manufactured and are cut specifically for the squad cars. Sheriff Risner would like to put out an advertisement to other police agencies to see if we could sell the car as a total package. Approval was given by the Commissioners to proceed with the advertisement of the canine squad car.

TACTICAL MEDIC OPERATION / DIRECTOR: Sheriff Risner reported that we are required to have a medical director to oversee the tactical medic operation that was recently set up utilizing the drug fund. The prior medical director that we were looking at a contractual agreement with has left his current position. The contract for the new medical director was given to Attorney Beaver for approval.

DRUG INTERDICTION OFFICER: Sheriff Risner distributed an article from the magazine *Bloomberg Markets* titled *Deadly Connections*. The article addresses the large cash seizure that took place in October, 2011. This seizure ties into the Mexican drug cartel and indicates their expansion into Northwest Indiana. At this time, the Commissioners viewed a power point presentation. As of this morning, 14,691 calls for service were answered. 192 calls for service were answered over the weekend. While we have the drug funds available, we can offset the cost for an additional drug interdiction unit. Sheriff Risner requested once again to allow the hiring of an additional interdiction officer. In response to a question from Mr. Culp, Sheriff Risner replied that he would like to have three (3) deputies on the road at all time; however, due to manpower, there are times that we just have two (2). Another increase and one of the biggest issues that we are now dealing with is the mental health issues. In response to a statement made by Mr. Culp, Sheriff Risner stated that the seizure money can be used for up to one year for salary and equipment.

**AFTER THE JASPER COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING:**

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE FUNDS GRANT / SPARLING AVENUE: After some discussion, the decision was made to obtain quotes for a concrete sidewalk before proceeding with the grant.

JASPER COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION / APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Walstra made a motion to appoint Lori Hamilton, Eric VanKley, and Jamie Mitchell to a two-year term on the Jasper County Tourism Commission. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

DONNELLY PROPERTY: Mr. Culp stated that the Donnelly heirs have accepted the county's offer of \$42,500.00. Attorney Beaver is working on a resolution that the Council will need to pass to approve the funding.

There being no further business, Mr. Walstra made a motion to continue the meeting until Monday, November 18 at 8:30 A.M. with an Executive Session following at 9:00 A.M. Mr. Maxwell seconded and the motion carried.

JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

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Kendell Culp, President

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James A. Walstra, Vice President

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Richard E. Maxwell, Member

ATTEST:

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Kimberly K. Grow, Auditor of Jasper County

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